

January 18, 2006

Office of the Quartermaster General
Attention: Regimental Office
U.S. Army Quartermaster Center and School
1201 22nd Street, Mifflin Hall
Fort Lee, VA 23801

Regimental Adjutant:

This letter forwards and strongly supports the nomination of Mr. Gary L. Harris for induction as a Distinguished Member of the Regiment (enclosure 1).

The attached resume highlights Mr. Harris' current duties and responsibilities as a Department of the Army GS-15 senior logistician at New Cumberland Defense Distribution Center and his distinguished active duty career of 29 years as a Quartermaster Officer. COL Harris' outstanding past and present service is in keeping with the highest traditions of excellence and esprit de corps the Quartermaster Corp and the US Army.

I have known COL Harris since 1985 and have served with him three times in Battalion and Division Support Command assignments and can attest to his high standards of personal and professional excellence and unparalleled dedication to duty. Based on his technical and tactical proficiency and reputation for being able to accomplish any mission, following DISCOM command COL Harris was selected to command the Defense Logistics Agency, Europe, where he once again exceeded all expectations. COL Harris culminated his active service as Chief of Staff / Director of Joint Logistics, New Cumberland DDC, where he is now serving as the Chief of the Distribution Management Division and the Organizational Liaison for Commercial Activities Program.

It is clear that Mr. Harris accomplished formidable challenges throughout his career and continues to make significant contributions to the logistics posture and sustainment of our fighting forces worldwide. Without question, Mr. Harris has earned his place as a "logistics warrior" and is befitting of the Distinguished Member of the Regiment award.

Sincerely,



Michael E. Koch
COL USA (Ret)
DMOR 1994

530 Heron Drive, Buffalo Junction, VA 24529 (434-374-4664)

1 Encl AS

Nomination
Distinguished Member of the Regiment
Gary L. Harris, GS-15 (COL QM –Retired)

Mr. Harris was commissioned a Second Lieutenant, Quartermaster Corps, upon graduation from the Murray State University ROTC program and entered active duty in 1973. Throughout his 29 years of active military service, COL Harris exemplified the highest standards and traditions of a Quartermaster officer, which he continues to exemplify as a Department of Army GS 15 employee. His outstanding leadership, superb managerial skills, and exceptional service are in keeping with the highest traditions of excellence and esprit de corps of the Quartermaster Corp and the US Army.

Recognizing COL Harris' outstanding past performance and his future potential, upon retirement from active duty, the US Army employed Mr. Harris as a GS 14. Shortly thereafter, Mr. Harris was promoted to GS 15 and assumed even greater responsibility as the Chief of the Distribution Management Division and the Organizational Liaison for Commercial Activities Program of the New Cumberland Defense Distribution Center. In his present assignment, Mr. Harris is a key technical advisor in all areas of logistics operations dealing with the senior Defense Distribution Center and Department of Defense leadership. He is responsible for Customer Relationship Management, Supply Chain Management, and technical advice and customer support services to the DDC's 26 Distribution Centers. Mr. Harris provides oversight, assistance and support to maintain productivity, quality, and cost effectiveness of shipments worldwide to sustain DOD customers. He also directs commercial activities to ensure consistency of distribution operations, prepares plans and procedures, and provides management oversight of A-76 Action Plans and related activities.

As a Quartermaster officer, Mr. Harris served in a wide variety of command and staff positions in Panama, Germany, Honduras and Korea, as well as posts across the United States. COL Harris' outstanding leadership and soldier skills were evident in his selection for a wide array of command assignments, beginning with Company Commander, E Company, 426th Supply & Service Battalion, Fort Campbell, KY. COL Harris then commanded the 46th Support Battalion, 10th Mountain Division, Fort Drum, NY, and then the 2nd Division Support Command, 2nd Infantry Division, Korea. Following DISCOM command, COL Harris commanded the Defense Logistics Agency, Europe. COL Harris not only excelled as a commander but also as a staff officer. His logistics expertise, vast knowledge and management skills enabled COL Harris to develop and implement Quartermaster doctrine and positive change in each successive demanding staff assignment. COL Harris' initial staff assignment was as the Chief, Family Housing, followed by Troop Support Subsistence Officer, Technical Supply Officer (Class IX), Material Management Officer, and Chief, Readiness and Operations Branch, Deputy Chief of Staff, Logistics, Department of the Army. COL Harris' final assignment was as Chief of Staff / Director of Joint Logistics, DDC, New Cumberland. COL Harris' key field Army staff assignments include tours of duty as Battalion S2/S3 Officer, Logistics Operations Officer, Battalion Executive Officer, and DISCOM

Executive Officer. COL Harris also served the Quartermaster Corps with distinction during three assignments to Fort Lee where he served as Division Chief, Airborne Department, Chief, Supply Proponency, and Director, Logistics Training Department.

Mr. Harris is a graduate of the Naval War College, the US Army Command and General Staff College, the Quartermaster Officer Advanced Course and the Quartermaster Basic Officer Course. He is also a graduate of the Storage Officer's Course, the Army Housing Management Course, Airborne School, QM Parachute Packing and Airdrop School and Air Assault School. Mr. Harris holds a Masters Degree in National Security & Strategic Affairs and a Bachelors Degree in Business Management from Murray State University.

Mr. Harris's numerous awards and decorations include the Sustained Superior Performance Award, Defense Superior Service Medal (2), Legion of Merit, Defense Meritorious Service Medal, Meritorious Service Medal (5), Joint Service Commendation Medal, Army Commendation Medal (5), Army Achievement Medal (2), Army Service Ribbon, Overseas Service Ribbon (5) and the Army Staff, Parachutist, Rigger, and Air Assault badges.

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